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A convenient Guide to the interesting Past of Pine

Numbered Articles Correspond With Numbers On Map
DESCRIPTIVE DATA OF HISTORICAL SITES

CHENGWATANA (THE BIRTHPLACE OF PINE COUNTY)

Where the Snake River emerges on the east shore of Cross Lake, an Indian village had been located from time immemorial. This had always been a rallying point for Indians and traders. It was called Chengwatana, which means "town of pines." The county itself, named in the earliest days of the white man, was probably named after this early village as well as for the extensive pine forests. The little village was located on the old Government Road on which post riders and stage coaches carried mail and passengers from St. Paul to the head of the Lakes. Pine County was officially organized by act of the Territorial Legislature in 1856. Chengwatana was designated the county seat. When the Lake Superior - Mississippi railroad was built in 1870, the court house, by popular vote, was moved to the present Pine City, and Chengwatana as a village ceased to exist.

FIRST SETTLER IN PINE COUNTY

Royalton township, in the southwest corner of Pine County, was first settled by a Mr. Elam Greely, who built a home on Snake River in 1849. He soon moved to Stillwater, where he became a very prominent citizen. The Greely store and creamery today bear his name. Royalton township was named for Royal C. Gray, who located on the Greely farm in 1854. For many years he operated a public house at Greely station on the Kanabec or Snake River. Thus the settlement of Pine County was begun.

1. RUTLEDGE LUMBER MILL

The first lumber mill at Rutledge was built in the early 1830's by the S. S. Griggs and Co. This mill had an annual capacity of 3,000,000 board feet. However, it was destroyed by fire and was rebuilt in 1892 by the Rutledge Lumber company. This continued in operation until 1906. Sawdust piles remained long afterwards as monuments of a by-gone era.

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The Fleming Logging Road was a railroad built from Bruno to the St. Croix River at the Yellow Banks east and south of Hinckley. It was used to haul logs from the various logging camps down to the St. Croix where they were floated down to Stillwater. About 1898 the rails and ties were removed and the road bed made into a wagon road. The present Fleming Road almost exactly follows the old road bed.

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was built by a Mr. McKay in 1892-93, on the old St. Croix and 4 miles east of Pine City. Good size logging and lumbering operations got under way, including the building of a wooden tramway for hauling lumber from the camp to the railroad at Rock Creek. The mill, however, was completely destroyed by fire in 1894.

12. FIRST ORGANIZED CHURCH IN PINE COUNTY

The First Presbyterian Church in Pine City is the oldest church in Pine County. It was organized in 1870 by Rev. D. C. Lyon of St. Paul Presbytery. The first building was erected in 1878 and is still a part of the remodeled sanctuary. The first elder, Wm. Francey, was installed in 1873. Visiting ministers conducted services until 1894, when the Rev. P. Knutson became the first installed pastor.

13. POGEGEMA MISSION

The Pokegema Mission, established in 1836, on the east shore of Pokegema Lake by Rev. Frederick Ayer and Rev. Boutwell, Presbyterian missionaries, was located on the site of the Ralph Ausmus farm. The Mission was the scene of many conflicts between Sioux and Chippewa tribes before it was abandoned and the Indians sent to reservations. These and other missionaries accomplished much in frontier Minnesota. They established schools, taught the Indians agriculture, wrote letters and reports about Indian life. They also translated the Bible and published books in the Sioux and Chippewa languages. To facilitate this work a printing press was brought into the Pokegema Mission. This was the first printing press ever to be set up in Minnesota.

14. TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM

In 1905 Dr. Longstreet Taylor of St. Paul, founded the Pokegema Sanatorium at the junction of Snake River and Lake Pokegema, four miles west of Pine City. This institution was established for the treatment of cases of incipient tuberculosis. Dr. R. L. Wiseman was an assistant the first year. Later Longstreet Taylor Foundation took it over with Dr. F. F. Callahan as superintendent. By 1942, it became evident that a private institution was no longer needed here, and the Sanatorium was sold to the Redemptorist Fathers in October 1944, and is now the St. Gerard Mission House.

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the rescue trains sent out from Duluth. After the Great Northern Railroad built a spur into the quarry, the spur to the St. Paul and Duluth line was abandoned. Signs of it can still be seen near the junction.

ELLSON.

Ellson was a small early Pine County community—a store, post office and a saw mill—which suffered the not uncommon fate of fire—rebuilt and again, fire. The store is all that now remains.

ROCK DAM RELAY STATION.

DEER CREEK RELAY STATION.

These two sites were welcome spots to the stage-weary traveler traveling the Old Government Road between Superior, Wis. and St. Paul, Minnesota in the 1850's. Here the weary horses, too, were replaced by fresh ones. Eating houses served food and at Deer Creek an hotel furnished overnight lodgings. Signs of these stations are still discernable. At Deer Creek, the cellar and outlines of the stables and the hotel can still be seen.

BANNING.

Banning (originally "Quarry") situated in Sec. 34, Finlayson Township, was named in honor of William T. Banning, a railroad contractor, who was born in Delaware in 1814. He settled in St. Paul in 1855. The township was owned by Theodore F. Koch Land Co. of St. Paul. Plat contained 100 lots and six streets, namely: Broughton, Miller, Clark, Plough, Summer and Russell. Established industries: Sandstone Quarries and Barber Asphalt Co. Contemplated Industries, Hydro-Electric Plant and Pulp Mills. Incorporated 1901. Postoffice established Dec. 9, 1896, discontinued Sept. 30, 1912. Population 150. Walls of one large building, railroad beds, machine mounts, and building slabs remain as evidence of early Pine County initiative. This is Pine County's only ghost town.

SANDSTONE QUARRY.

The Sandstone Quarries were opened in August of 1885. The diamond tooth saw was run by water power from a dam erected on the Kettle River. The stone was of very good quality and many fine buildings and bridges have been built with stone from these quarries. This industry caused the very rapid growth of Fortuna which name was then changed to Sandstone. Since the advent of structural steel and concrete in recent years the use of stone has come to a near end.

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By an act of the legislature in 1896 a beautiful granite shaft was erected east of the village of Hinckley to honor those who lost their lives in the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894 and to mark the graves of the 248 unidentified persons buried in four long trenches there. The Hinckley Fire Survivors and Pioneers organization meets annually to renew old friendships and carry on the work of maintaining that part of the cemetery as a lasting remembrance of their friends and relatives who lost their lives in that first day of September long ago.

10. BROOK PARK MONUMENT

Just southwest of Brook Park the state erected a beautiful monument in 1915, to honor those people who died in the Hinckley Fire of 1894. Twenty-three of the twenty-six persons who lost their lives are buried in two long trenches. The cemetery is kept in neat order and each year memorial services are held there.

11. MILBURN COMMUNITY

The Milburn community on the St. Croix road, some 7 miles east of Pine City, takes its name after the burning of a saw mill there on September 1, 1894. The mill

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21. BANNING - MILLER SPUR.

Banning-Miller Spur of the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad (later sold to Northern Pacific) was constructed by William T. Banning in 1891-1892. First train operated June 1, 1892. After 27 years of operation the track and ties were removed in 1918 and the right of way disposed of. The old right of way is still discernible to the west when passing the Victor Mosbaek farm on Highway 61, two miles north of Sandstone. It is still discernable to the west when passing the Victor Mosbaek farm on Highway 61, two miles north of Sandstone.


22. THE SANDSTONE SPUR.

When stone suitable for quarrying was discovered at Fortuna (Sandstone) in 1885 and quarries were opened, a means of transporting the stone to market was necessary. Through the efforts of W. H. Grant a spur was built from the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad to Sandstone in 1888. This was the spur over which many Sandstone survivors of the Hinckley Forest Fire of 1894 made their way to reach

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HISTORIC SITES OF PINE COUNTY MINNESOTA.

With Brief Description of Same.



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With Compliments of:

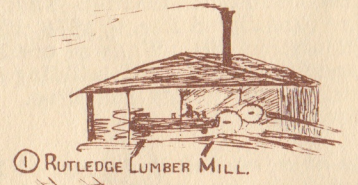
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
PINE CITY, MINN.

Prepared and edited by the Pine County Historical Society to mark the County's centennial.

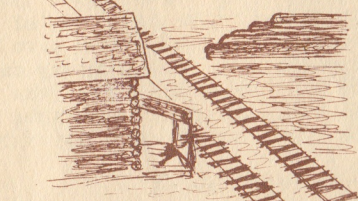
Pine County was officially organized March 1, 1858. Chenguama, an old Indian village and trading post, at Cross Lake outlet of Snake river, was designated as the seat of a county whose population in 1860 was about 92. The first courthouse was destroyed by fire in 1870. In 1872, the county seat was moved to Pine City, where a new courthouse was built. A larger courthouse was erected in 1886. This had served until struck by lightning June 12, 1952.



9 HINKLEY FIRE MONUMENT. 10 BROOK PARK MONUMENT. 11 MILBURN-MILL BURNED 1894. 12 FIRST ORGANIZED CHURCH. 13 POKEGAMA MISSION, 1836. 14 TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM. The Courthouse built in 1886.



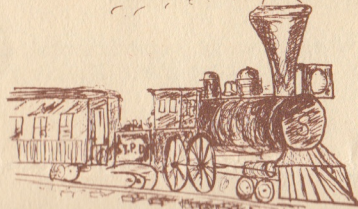
1 RUTLEDGE LUMBER MILL.



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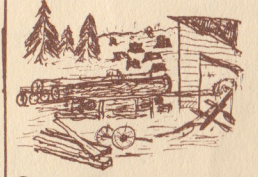
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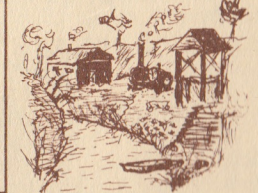
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15 SANDSTONE CREOSOTE PLANT.



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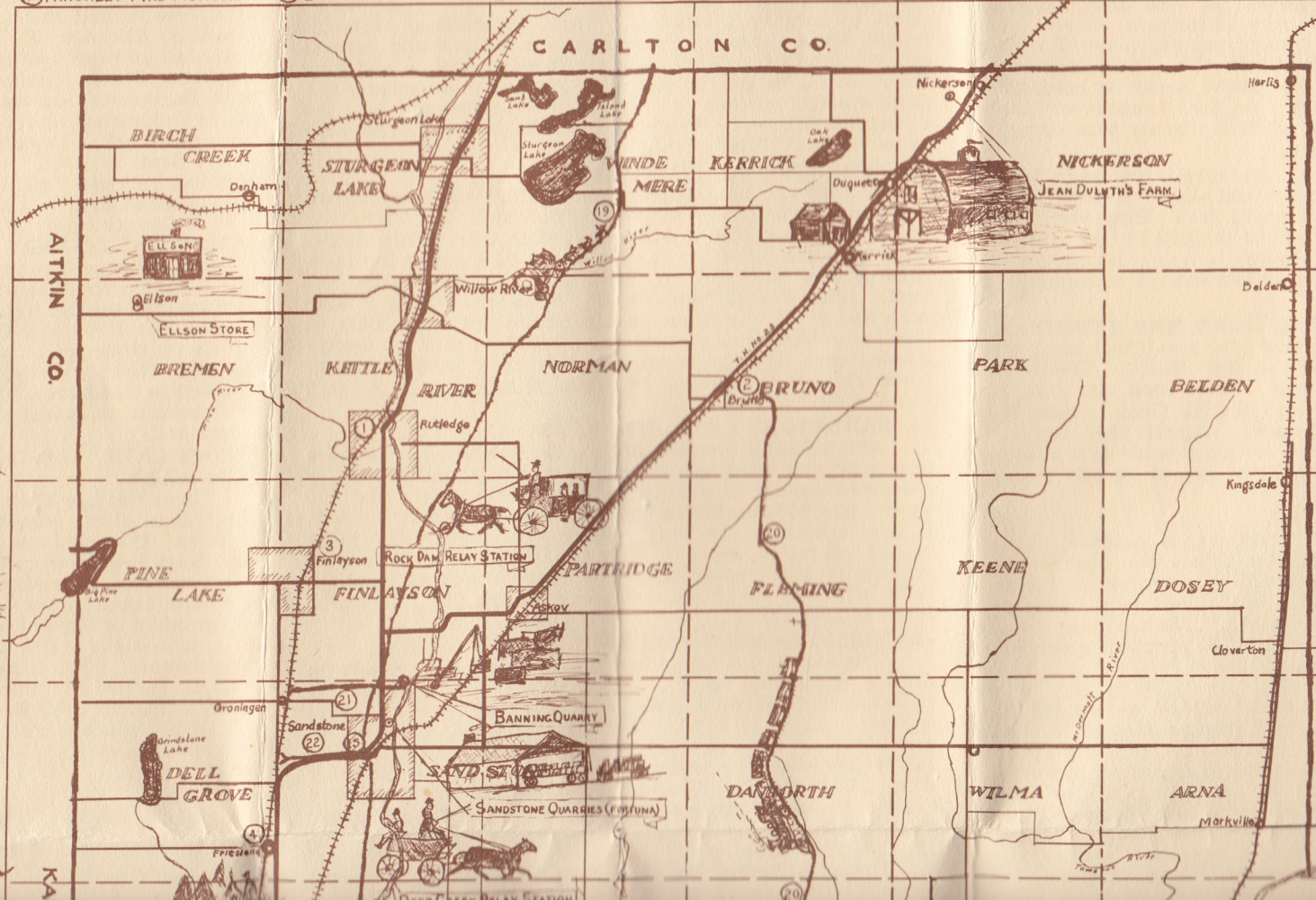


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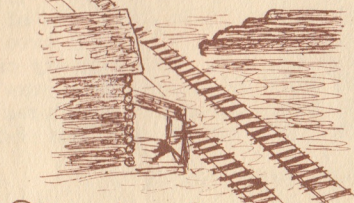


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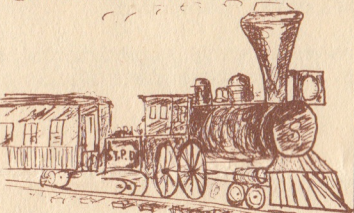
① Rutledge Lumber Mill.



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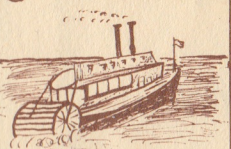
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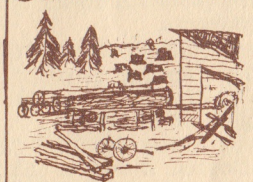
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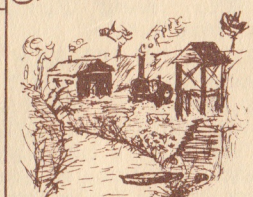
⑦ "KATE R" 1882-34 x 125.



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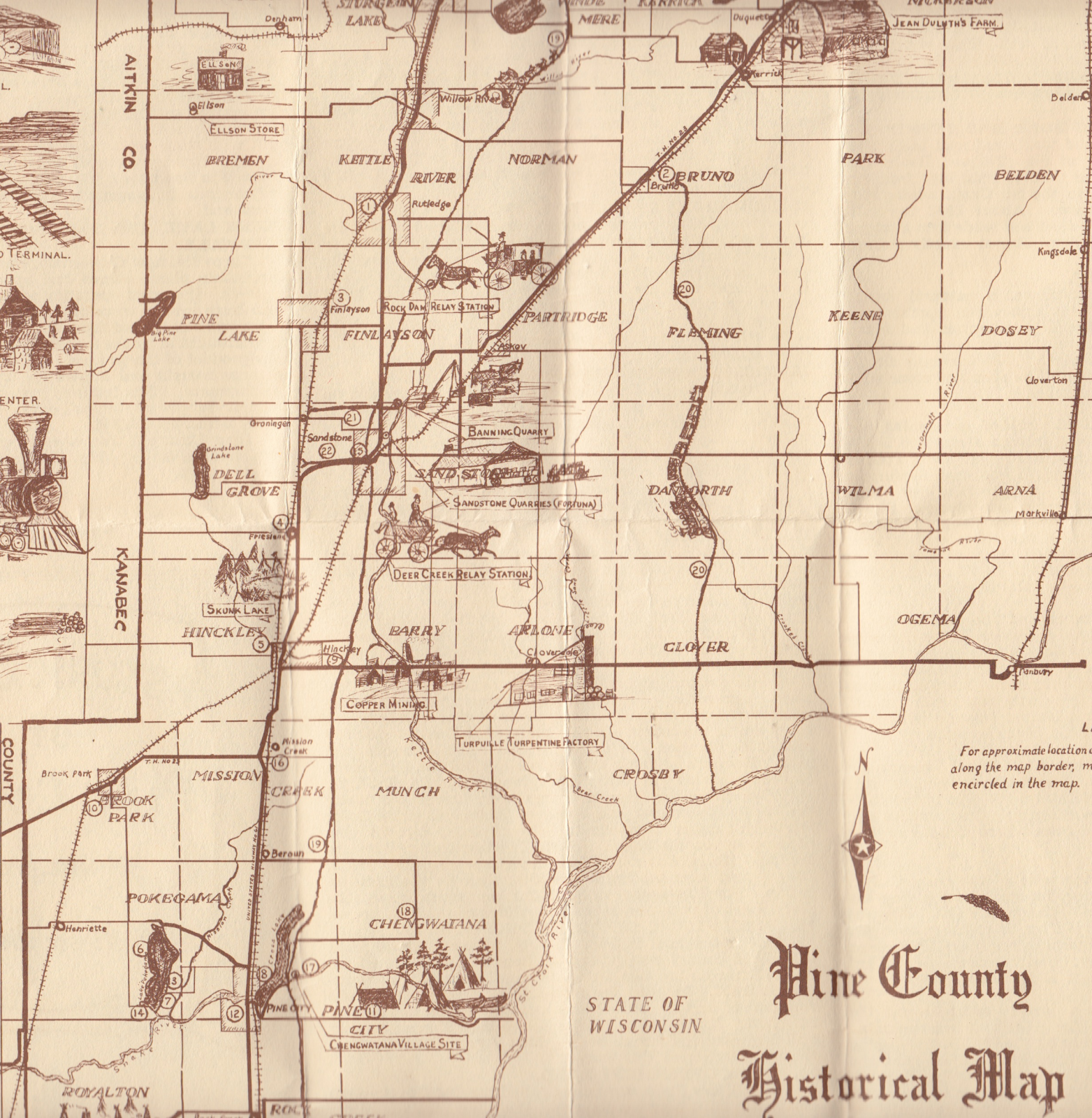
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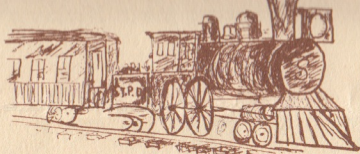
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Pine County Historical Map

STATE OF
WISCONSIN





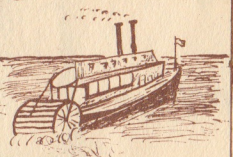
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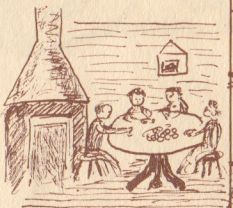
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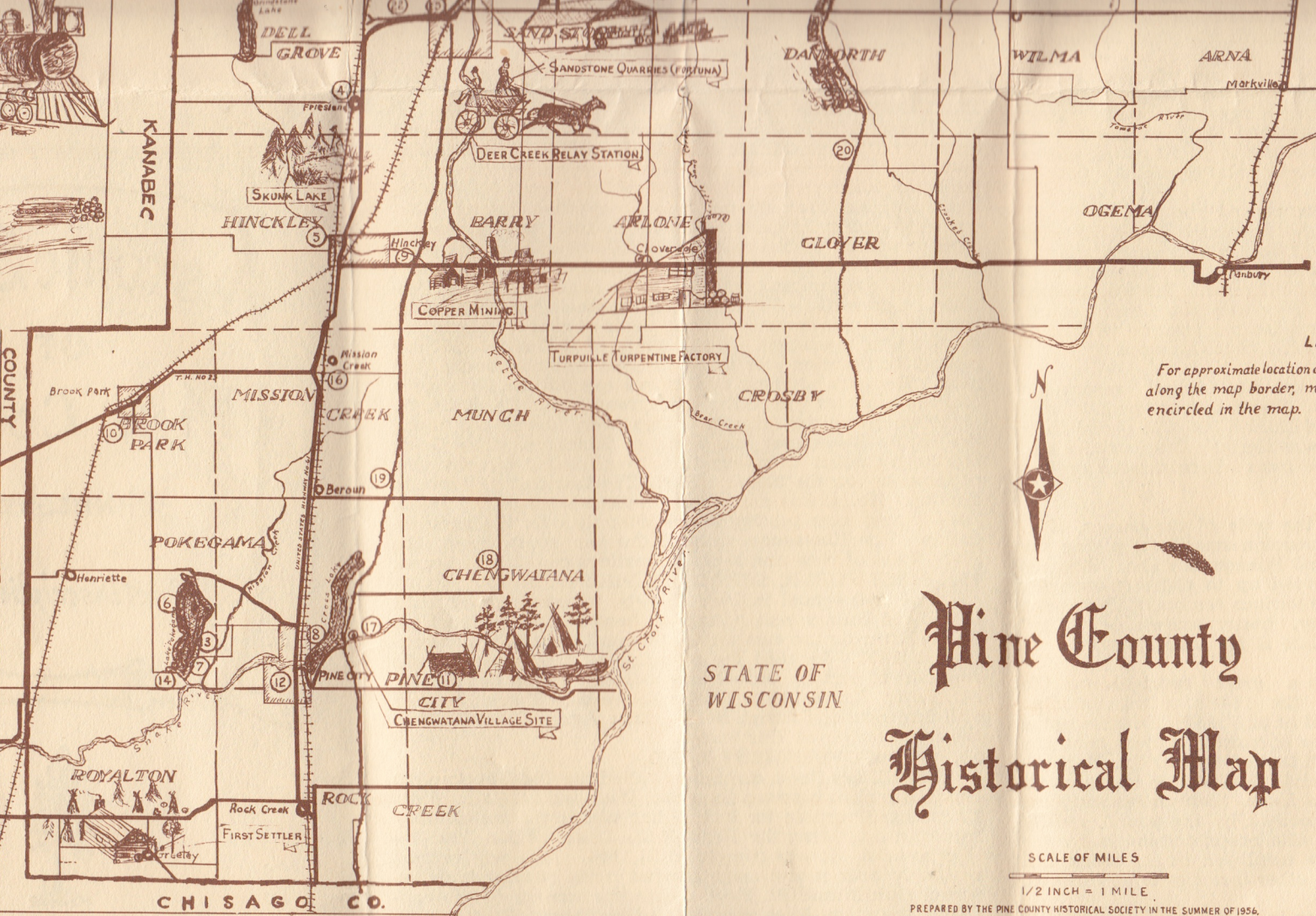
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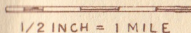
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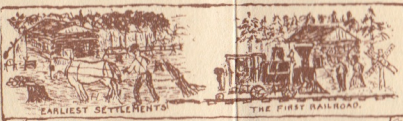
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STATE OF
WISCONSIN

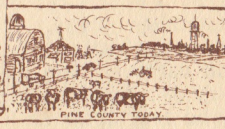
SCALE OF MILES



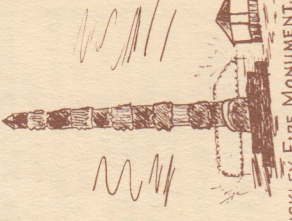
PREPARED BY THE PINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN THE SUMMER OF 1956.



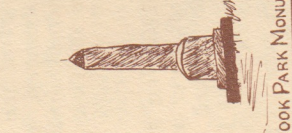
THE FIRST RAILROAD.



The County was officially organized March 1859. Chippewa an old Indian village and trading post at Cross Lake called of Snake root was designated as the seat of a county whose population in 1860 was about 92. The first courthouse was destroyed by fire in 1870. In 1872, the county seat was moved to Pine City, where a new court house was built. A larger courthouse was erected in 1886. This too served until struck by lightning June 12, 1952.



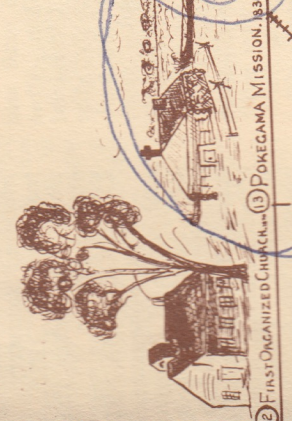
9 HINKLEY FIRE MONUMENT.



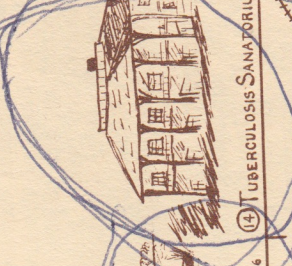
10 BROOK PARK MONUMENT.



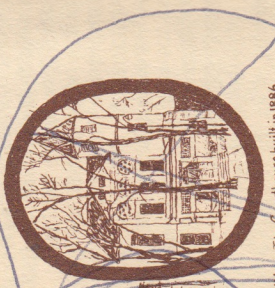
11 MILBURN MILL BURNED 1894.



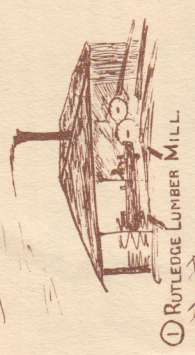
12 FIRST ORGANIZED CHURCH.



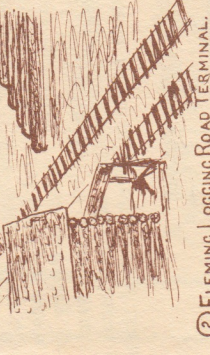
13 POKEGAMA MISSION, 1836.



The Carthouse built in 1886.



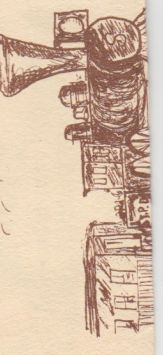
1 RUTLEDGE LUMBER MILL.



2 FLEMING LOGGING ROAD TERMINAL.



3 FINLAYSON HEALTH CENTER.



15 SANDSTONE CRESSOTE PLANT.



16 MISSION CREEK LUMBER MILL.



17 COPPER MINING.



18 WILMA.

- 18 1st Public School in County.
- 19 The Old Government Road.
- 20 Fleming Logging Road.
- 21 Millers Spur.
- 22 Sandstone Spur.

LEGEND.

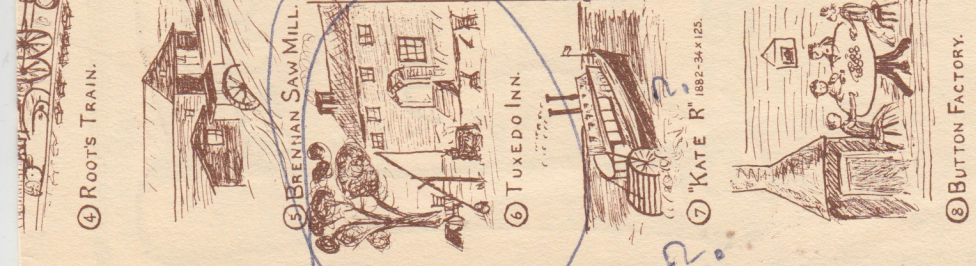
For approximate location of the historical subjects sketched along the map border, match their numbers with those encircled in the map.



Pine County Historical Map

SCALE OF MILES
1/2 INCH = 1 MILE.

PREPARED BY THE PINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN THE SUMMER OF 1954.



X Copper Mines.

1800-1840
 Thomas Connor - 1804
 Rev. Frederick Ayer - 1836
 Mrs. E. J. both Ayer - 1836
 Rev. Wm. Boutwell - 1837
 Henry Rust - 1837-38?
 Jeremiah Russell - 1837

History of
 Pokegama Lake
 Part of
 Snake River